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News and Notes

It was not so long after the birth of Jesus when it became necessary for His parents to flee into a strange land with their Son. Even though we know that the political rulers were in error because Jesus was not sent to be a threat to an earthly ruler, He and His parents were nevertheless forced to seek refuge in Egypt.

At this Christmas of 1958 when we may again worship Him who is our Lord and Savior, we remember the hundreds and thousands in our world whom we call refugees and who have been forced to flee into strange lands.

As we worship the Christ in our homes and congregations and remember that in faith we are assured of peace and love, let us pray for our fellow men. In October the Executive Committee of the Lutheran World Federation formulated the following resolution:

"We must recognize that in the midst of the many commotions and catastrophes presently harrassing the world, God Himself is certainly at work. This is true even in the confusion and suffering still being inflicted on human beings. God also uses these things to turn the people toward Him in intercessory prayer.

"As we think of the millions of refugees and oppressed, the hungry and homeless in many parts of the world, our prayers to God should be that He not permit the powers of evil to prevail but that His good and gracious will may be accomplished.

"Let us pray that His Word may move freely among these events which often seem incomprehensible to us so that His Kingdom may come and His Peace may not be lost to mankind. May God, the Father Almighty, endow us all with responsible thoughts of justice and peace and make us obedient instruments of His will."

I bring this greeting to the congregations of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church in the Name of Him whose birth we commemorate and I request that we hold before the throne of Grace the needs of our fellowmen. Especially ought we to pray for fellow Christians whose faith is being tried. Pray that they may be sustained in the faith by His Spirit. Pray in thanksgiving to God for the privilege of gathering to worship Him who is our Lord and the Lord of the Church.

William Larsen

A Blessed Christmas

Your editor wishes every reader a blessed Christmas! This is not an empty phrase. We come to you every week with something that should help you to have a blessed Christmas. As we prepare each issue, we have two things in mind. We think of the individual reader and we think of God's Church. We live in that church. In that church we learn to repent, to believe, to pray, to suffer with one another, to share with one another. Because the church is the body of Christ, Christ is ours and we are his.

We know that there will be so many things to do at Christmas that a good number of the readers may not even read this. But let us repeat that we

come every week with information, inspiration and opinion. We know that these opinions do not always agree with your views. We do not aim to agree. If we shock you now and then we are happy.

However, at Christmas we only hope and pray that that peace of which the angels sang on the fields of Bethlehem may be yours

John M. Jensen



The First Annual Report of the season came to us from McCabe, Mo. Rev. Ole Larsen, pastor. Pastor I sen has recently arrived at the church and serves two congregations, McCabe and Brorson. It always gives us much joy to look through congregational reports, especially those of the smaller churches. They show so much faithfulness and love. This report gives statements about The Men of the Church, The Ladies Aid, the Sunday School, The Martha Circle and the congregation itself. All the different items indicate constant and energetic work.

LUTHERAN MUSIC ON THE RADIO

Christmas Day, 10:05-10:30 P. Eastern Standard Time, Concordia College, Moorhead, Minn. will broadcast a program over the Mutual Broadcasting System.

Christmas Evening, the Lutheran Church of the Reformation in Washington, D. C., will have a program on the ABC Television station. It includes a mass Choir and Children's Choir. U. S. Marine Corps Brass Ensemble.

St. Paul, Nebr., Norman Freese, pastor. St. Mark's Lutheran Church had three fine cottage meetings during their November stewardship program. Three young people were confirmed at St. John's Church at Cushing, Nebr. Nov. 3. Four were confirmed at St. Mark's.

A Letter from J. B. Phillips. Pastor Ingward Olsen, Chicago, Ill., wrote a letter to the well known writer and translator, Pastor J. B. Phillips thanking him for his work of putting the New Testament into modern English. Pastor Phillips answered Pastor Olsen as follows:

"Thank you very much for your kind letter and for your words of appreciation of my translational work. I have but recently returned from a vacation trip to the New England States, and my host, guide, philosopher and friend was the Reverend O. Brown, Religious Editor of the Macmillans, himself a Lutheran pastor. One of the Sundays during my trip I was able to join in worship at a Lutheran Church, and I was very greatly struck by the strong similarity between the liturgy and worship of your Church and the Church of England." (Continued on page 4)

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Christmas Surprises

By Paull E. Harder

We all look forward to Christmas and expect to be surprised either pleasantly or unpleasantly by the gifts we receive. Do we ever think of the surprises of the first Christmas? That was a Christmas that was really packed with surprises.

Jesus' earthly parents were surprised.

After the angels' message to Mary and Joseph (Luke 6:35 and Matt. 1:18-25) they looked for something unusual, but not for something as big as King Jesus. We never know what surprises we are in for if we listen to God and obey his commands.

The innkeeper was certainly surprised. If he had had the slightest idea that a King was to be born that night, do you think his word to Mary and Joseph would have been, "No room"? We have no idea what surprises are in store for us until we make room for Jesus in our hearts. There is indeed a big surprise for us when we let Jesus come into our hearts.

The wise men were wise, but not wise enough. Let us travel with the wise men by day and night from afar to find the King? (Some folks think the wise men were kings.) Be that as it may, we know they were rich and wise. Can you imagine their surprise and amazement when they arrived in Bethlehem to find the King was born in a palace, or of rich and mighty parents? We know not where we may find Jesus, but if we truly seek him, we will surely find him. Let us seek him and bring to him the best gift, the gift of ourselves, and we do this we too will be truly surprised at the change in our lives.

The shepherds were surprised. As they were on the mountaintop watching their sheep, no doubt they were thinking of the persecution of their people and how the land was occupied by the Romans. Then when every-



thing was still and quiet they heard the wonderful, "peace song" as sung by the heavenly choir. Yes, they were really surprised. We can be likewise surprised and hear heavenly voices if we withdraw from the hustle and bustle of this life and withdraw to a place where all is peace and quiet. This Christmas season let us take a little time out and go to that place so that we may be surprised by hearing voices from heaven.

Like our present day all the surprises of that first Christmas were not pleasant ones. Do you think Herod was pleasantly surprised when he learned that a new King was born, or that he whose every word was a command was tricked by the wise men returning to their own country another way? Or that it was impossible to get rid of King Jesus by committing the sin of destroying all the baby boys in his kingdom. If we are only pretending to worship King Jesus we are in for surprises too. Jesus knows our very thoughts, and be not mistaken, He knows just as well today as he did nineteen hundred years ago, if we are really sincere when we say we are worshiping.

All were surprised; the high, the low, and the in-between. I am glad that Jesus surprised all, because that includes me. What a surprise we are in for if we read and obey his Word and make room for him in our lives, and bring him the greatest gift we can give him, the gift of self. Let us this Christmas take time to think

(Continued on page 4)

CHRISTMAS SURPRISES

(Continued from page 3)

of heavenly things and come and really worship the newborn King.

This Christmas really give yourself the surprise of your life by giving your all to Him.

Will you say this Christmas tide,

"Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lo Jesus—

Come in today, come in to stay, come into my heart Lord Jesus."

But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name. Jn. 1:12.

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from page 2)

land to which I belong. Naturally I had many long chats with Guy Brown and I was delighted to find that the theological conceptions as well as the doctrine and liturgy of the Lutheran Church is almost precisely that of the Anglican Communion.

"Over the many years that I have spent in translating the New Testament I have come to regard more and more highly its "inspiration" in the highest and best sense. It cannot be less than the providence of God that these early unself-conscious documents are so relevant to our needs today. But it is essential that people should read the Word in language that they can fully understand: otherwise the divine message becomes no more than a beautiful legend or a revered mystery with little or no influence on life in 1958. In sending greetings to your congregation I do urge that they read with as fresh and unprejudiced mind as possible these uniquely inspired documents. If they have not already discovered it, they

will find that God still speaks today.

He is, after all, our Contemporary!

Yours in Christian fellowship
J. B. Phillips."

A LETTER**The Universal Lutheran Church**

Dear Editor,

Just a few words about your article, "Lutheran Catholics" in Dec. 1st issue of Ansgar Lutheran.

I agree with you that we Lutherans have more right to use the word Catholic than have the Romans but the Romans are using it and there is not much we can do about it. It would be very hard or impossible to convince them that they should not use the word Catholic.

Catholic comes from the Greek word, katolikas. The correct English translation of the Greek word, katolikas is universal. Why not use the right translation of the word and call ourselves The Lutheran Universal Church.

Nis Christensen

Calgary, Alta., Canada

TRY THIS TOMORROW!

What do you give of yourself those around you? When you go tomorrow, try speaking to the casual fellow-shopper, the tired bus conductor, the worried girl or the man with a headache. You'll feel all the better for it; so will they. For happiness is a boomerang; give it to others and it returns to your own feet. Try it!

—Ursula Bloom.

A New England farmer went over his wife's accounts once a week. One week he found occasion to rebuke him.

"Look here, Hester," he said, "my tard plasters, 50 cents; three teeth extracted, \$2. There's \$2.50 in cash week spent for your own private pleasure. Do you think I'm made of money?"

Professor: Can you tell me anything about the great chemists of the seventeenth century?

Student: They are all dead, sir.

Old Wexford Carol

Good people all this Christmas-time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good Lord for us has done,
In sending His beloved Son.
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon that morn
There was a blessed Messiah born.

The night before that happy tide,
The noble Virgin and her guide
Were long time seeking up and down
To find a lodging in the town.
But mark how all things came to pass;
From every door repelled, alas!
As long foretold, their refuge all
Was but an humble ox's stall.

Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear,
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
"Prepare and go," the angels said,
"To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn,
A Princely Babe, Sweet Jesus born."

With thankful heart and joyful mind,
The shepherds went the Babe to find,
And as God's angels had foretold
They did our Saviour Christ behold.
Within a manger He was laid,
And by His side the Virgin maid,
Attending on the Lord of Life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.

Story of two Orphans

God's Little Messenger

By Edward and Edith De Lope

What a terrible tragedy; both parents and three others killed in the fire; only the two children left, youngest and the oldest. I tell you, Ann, it was heartbreaking standing there watching, without being able to help."

Harmon White's wife looked deeply shocked. "I can understand that, Harm," she agreed, "What's to become of the children now? The Jorgensens had no other relatives."

The baby was taken to an orphanage; somebody will probably adopt her some day. Lillian is in the hospital; she was burned some, but not too severely. They'll most likely let her go in a few days, and then . . ." He left the rest of the sentence hanging.

"Harm, I was thinking . . ." She too did not finish her sentence.

"Yes, Ann—?"

Well, since we can't have any children of our own, and we knew the Jorgensens so well—I mean to say, Lillian is such a sweet child, so couldn't—couldn't we take her in, at least for a little while? She likes us." "You're taking the words out of my mouth." His eyes smiled at her as he bent over to kiss her. "I was just hoping you'd say that."

Well, then that's settled."

"What about Penny?" he began, but she interrupted. "No, I couldn't take care of a baby. There's enough work here as it is; Lillian would be a help, but the baby no, I'm afraid we must forget about that, Harm."

He looked at her dark serious eyes, her pretty red mouth, now set firmly, and realized he had to give in for the time being. But he couldn't forget Lillian's little face, as she gamely tried to fight back the tears when he'd explained about her family. "Then it's just me and the baby left," she'd sobbed.

The Whites lived comfortably on an almost one hundred acre farm in New Jersey. The Jorgensens, on a much smaller farm, had been their nearest neighbors. The children called Mr. and Mrs. White aunt and uncle. The Jorgensens had been churchgoers, the Whites were not.

"I believe in living right," White had defended himself in many friendly discussions with Hans Jorgensen. "I don't need any preacher to tell me what to do. If one does the right thing, helps his fellow men when needed, and doesn't commit murder, steal or anything else, why shouldn't he go to heaven—if there is such a heaven."



Jorgensen had replied, "I know you employ the Christian principles in your life, Harmon, but there's more to it than that. Come to church with us, and you'll feel an uplift like never before." But Harmon had not gone to church, nor had his wife.

Two days after the funeral, Harmon White drove to town to get the eight-year old Lillian from the hospital. He was thinking about her parents. "Dust to dust," the pastor had said. Yes, it would come to that eventually—for everyone. How would he meet the great destructor, Death, when his turn came? Harmon had gone to church while he was a boy and young man; in fact he and Ann had met at a Luther League get-together in Teaneck, but as the years passed, they'd drifted away. There was so much to do on the farm; they started out with only fifteen acres and gradually added more. They had worked hard, and by and by arrived at the philosophy that you don't get things by sitting down comfortably and pray for them; you get them only by hard work. So, the church saw less and less of them, and finally they completely stopped going, about seven years ago. To begin with, the pastor had come around occasionally, but had been firmly, though politely informed that they had no time for visiting. Since old Pastor Jensen died, nobody had been to see them.

Lillian clung to him when he arrived at the hospital. "Uncle Harm," she said, "I'm so glad I'm going home with you."

"We're glad to have you, Honey." Gently his big hand patted her light brown curls.

Her hazel eyes looked directly into his. "What about Penny?" she queried. "Will she have to stay in the orphanage?"

"Until somebody adopts her, I guess. She's such a pretty little girl; someone is sure to take a liking to her soon and adopt her."

"Oh!" There was a disappointed note in Lillian's voice, but she said nothing more until she sat beside him on the way home.

"Uncle Harm," she began hesitantly, "I know it's a

lot to ask, but couldn't you and Aunt Ann—I mean, what if the baby came to stay with you too?"

She saw his frown and added hurriedly, "She won't be any bother, I promise! I can take care of her almost all by myself. Mom—" Big tears came into her eyes and she swallowed hard, "Mom always let me help her with the baby."

"Perhaps later on," he said vaguely, "right now—well, your Aunt Ann is awfully busy, what with the preserving and all, and it's almost harvest time. You understand, don't you, Honey?"

"Yes, I understand," she said quietly. Then she cheered up a little and continued, "Meanwhile, I'll just pray real hard; harder than ever!"

He didn't reply. Lillian had her faith, and he'd be the last one to do anything to destroy it, since she seemed to gain comfort from it, but he didn't have to go along with her in her beliefs.

Thanksgiving came along. Lillian was fitting into the new household like a hand-in-glove. Soon it seemed to the Whites as though she'd always been there. Harmon was seriously thinking of adopting her, but hadn't brought up the subject as yet. Ann was obviously fond of the quiet little girl, but just how fond, he didn't exactly know.

Lillian had continued going to Sunday School. She'd insisted that "Mom and Dad would want me to—and I want to go myself," and they had not objected. Harmon took her to church every Sunday morning. It was too far to walk, almost six miles. Then he'd park the car and take a long walk through the forest till it was time to call for Lillian again.

The trees were so beautiful at this time of the year; dressed up in golden, bronze, red and all shades of brown. He enjoyed those walks, they brought him closer to nature, he thought—almost substituting the word "God" for "nature" at times.

They had a nice Thanksgiving dinner, and when it came time for Lillian to go to bed, she asked, "Won't you both come up and tuck me in—and listen to my prayers?"

They looked at each other, a little embarrassed. Then they went upstairs with the little girl, but when she was ready for bed, they once more glanced at one another, and Harmon said, "Prayers are private, Honey; I think you'd better say them alone."

Her clear eyes looked at him steadily, "All right," she said, with disappointment in her voice.

They went outside, closing the door softly. "We could have listened—" began Ann.

He didn't answer, but as they were about to descend the stairs, he stretched a hand out to stop her. "Listen," he whispered, and they stepped closer to the door of the child's room.

Clearly they heard, "And please make Aunt Ann and Uncle Harm come to church too. I love them so, they're almost like my real Mom and Dad. And please, dear God, please let the baby come to live here too. You know I haven't even seen her, because Uncle Harm says it might upset her to see me, when she can't go

with me; but I miss her so, and I'm sure Mom and Dad would want us to stay together, since there are just the two of us left. I could take care of the baby, I know I could, and in a little while she could help around the house too. So, please, dear God, can I have Penny home—for Christmas? Thank you. Good night, Amen."

In silence the two walked downstairs. He settled down in the living room with a newspaper, she with some mending.

"Harm!" and "Ann!" they exclaimed simultaneously, then laughed. "I guess we were thinking of the same thing?" he wondered.

"About Penny? Yes, Harm, I've reconsidered. Lillian is such a sweet kid, and she really should have her sister with her. Penny is almost two years old, she won't need too much looking after—except what Lillian can do. What do you say?"

"It is a shame to keep them apart," he agreed. He was more touched by Lillian's prayer than he'd admitted. He cleared his throat. "All right, let's go see if they'll let us have Penny tomorrow," he added, "but don't tell Lillian about it until we know how things work out. Then perhaps—well, since they'll both be staying here, I thought that—Ann, couldn't we adopt them?"

"That's a good idea, Harm," she said warmly and kissed him.

There wasn't too much red tape to cut. The Whites were well-known and well-liked, and the children needed a home. The adoption of both children would become a reality in the beginning of the new year. Meanwhile they asked if the baby could remain in the orphanage until Christmas. "You see, Lillian wants her sister for a Christmas present," explained Harmon somewhat shyly, "she's been praying for it."

But a little later they realized that right up to Christmas they would be too busy. They had promised Lillian an old-fashioned Christmas, like they used to have in her home; with the dinner on Christmas Eve, and afterwards the tree—like it had been in the old country. There was baking to be done, candymaking, cooking and what-have-you, so two weeks before Christmas they told Lillian, "we're going on a trip—want to come with us?"

She was instantly ready. "Where are we going?" she asked as they climbed into the car.

"You have three guesses."

Her face lit up. "To church?" It was Sunday Morning. She'd often asked Harm when he took her to Sunday School, to please stay for the service, and she'd join him there. Sunday School was out fifteen minutes before church services began. But he'd always had some excuse or other, and though she was plainly disappointed, she'd not pressed the issue. But today, Aunt Ann was with them, so perhaps—. Harmon could almost see what was going on in her pretty little head.

"Much farther," he replied. "In fact, we're going to the orphanage."

"The orphanage? Where Penny is?" She was wide-eyed with excitement.

"Exactly. We're going to pick Penny up. She's go-

Mecca Still

By Jessie Whiteside Finks

Death blue skies Judean hills
 Are nestled close to the earth's
 breast.
 A wave-pervading peace and quiet
 Invite a weary world to rest.
 Over all . . . Bethlehem Star
 Hangs low . . . its rays pointing
 the way
 Lowly shepherds and wise men
 To all join in the heavenly lay.

The angel chorus overhead
 In gladsome hallelujahs sing,
 Glory to God and on earth peace
 And good will toward all men.
 For unto us a Child is born . . .
 And unto us a Son is given . . .
 This Christ of God of Virgin born
 That men might know of sins
 forgiven!

Though centuries have passed away
 The Cradle of the Christ Child is
 A mecca still for all mankind.
 For He Who in the Manger lay
 'Midst peering eyes of sheep and
 kine
 Was born a Saviour for all men. . . .
 Those who accept this Gift Divine
 Their Father, too, shall ever be . . .
 Wonderful, Counsellor, Mighty God,
 The Prince of Peace . . . eternally!
 —Free Methodist

to be your Christmas gift from us."
 You mean—we're taking her home with us—for
 1?"

Yes, Honey, for good. And soon after New Year's,
 we adopting the two of you. Then we'll be your
 n and Dad instead of Aunt and Uncle." He let go
 the wheel with one hand and patted her gently on
 head, "Would you like that, Lillian?"
 'd like that more than anything!" Her eyes shone,
 since she couldn't reach him while he was driving,
 put her arms around Ann's neck and gave her a
 kiss. They were all sitting in the front seat of the
 ion wagon.

Lillian was all excited and talked a whole lot more
 usual. Finally she calmed down a little and said,
 e, God **does** answer prayers! I've been praying so
 d, ever since I came to live with you—and now—
 I'm so happy!"

The reunion was something to behold, and the baby
 led down in the White household, just as easily as
 lan.

One evening, shortly before the Holidays, Harmon
 e upon Lillian, who was sitting in the stable, warmly
 pped up, nestled down in the hay, with the baby
 de her.

He didn't notice him, and he stopped to listen for a
 ment. "So, you see, Penny," the bigger girl was
 laining, "The Christ Child was born in a stable just
 this one, only much smaller and poorer, and His
 her had only rags to wrap him in, not warm clothes
 we have. But He wanted in that way, so that He
 ld really be one of us. And the angels sang for the
 herds, and the big star shone in the sky, and then
 shepherds came to worship, and the three kings.
 re going to do it in a play in Sunday School, two
 s after Christmas. Wouldn't it be nice, if Aunt"—
 corrected herself—"if Mom and Dad would come to
 it? And best of all, if we could all go to church
 ther Christmas morning." She gave her little sister
 affectionate hug and added confidently, "but they'll
 e someday; I know it, for Im praying for them all
 time."

Harmon was deeply moved by the child's innocent
 ds. Something long forgotten, or buried under busy
 yday worries, stirred within him.
 e surprised his wife that evening after the children

were put to bed, by saying, "Ann, let's go to church
 Christmas morning!" He seemed embarrassed and
 blushed slightly, but was gratified by the readiness with
 which she agreed. Perhaps she'd just gone along with
 him, because he was her husband and she loved him?
 Perhaps she'd been missing something too? It set him
 thinking.

It was a lovely Christmas morning. A real Currier-
 and-Ives-day, with glittering snow everywhere; spar-
 kling icicles on the roof and the branches of the trees.
 Harmon couldn't remember a Christmas morning like
 this since he was a kid. They took the sleigh with the
 jingling bells instead of the car, and the children en-
 joyed the ride tremendously.

Then they were in church. A small modest brick
 building high on a hill. It was warm and cozy inside
 and the Christmas trees on either side of the altar were
 bathed in shimmering light. The big lights were dim-
 med, so that the trees would show up more.

Ann had the baby in her lap. Next to her sat Harmon
 and beside him, Lillian. As the mystery of the age-old
 Christmas story once more became alive to him through
 the pastor's reading of the gospel, and the inspired ser-
 mon, Harmon for the first time fully realized what he'd
 shut himself off from for so long. No, it wasn't enough
 to try to be good and live by the rules; man does not
 live by bread alone.

The large marble figure of Thorvaldsen's Christ with
 the outstretched arms, "Come unto me," seemed to
 smile at him, as if welcoming him back. And when the
 congregation lifted their voices in joyful singing, "Hark,
 the Herald Angels sing," Harmon joined in, first a
 little hesitantly, then clear and full. He had a nice
 baritone, and his wife's and Lillian's clear sopranos
 blended with his voice in perfect harmony; it almost
 seemed as though they were alone in the church. Even
 Penny tried to hum along with them.

Outside, everyone greeted them like long lost friends.
 When they reached home, Lillian hugged and kissed
 them both, "This is the best Christmas ever—the day
 my Mom and Dad went to church with us. See, God
 does hear prayers!"

"Yes, He does, Honey!" admitted Harmon, "and from
 now on, we're going to church every Sunday."

He took the child in his arms, "God's little messenger,"
 he said and kissed her gently.

A Christmas Leave that Changed his Life

Bethlehem to Gethsemane

A Journey by Army Truck

By Jim Stralton

It was just as he had feared! That wrong turn back from the Bethlehem hills had separated Jim from his party; now, just as the sun sank, he arrived at the highway in time to see the military truck fade into a dim dust cloud far up the Jerusalem road.

Sergeant Jim was spending his Christmas leave in Palestine. Why he had chosen to do so he could not explain, apart from the fact that it was a change from the irksomeness of the desert camp and the inescapable sand. His day had been spent with a small party in the hills, while the others in the truck had proceeded on their noisy way to the shores of the Dead Sea.

Another truck would pass in an hour's time: he sat down to wait.

Far up the valley he saw shepherds mustering their sheep: their methods struck him as primitive. As daylight faded starry points marked their campfires. In dim silhouette the buildings of Bethlehem stood out against the sky. Stars stole forth to their age-long sentry. Silence settled on the hills. The day was done.

Jim loved the hills; they reminded him of the hills that looked down upon his home town far away in New Zealand. Tonight their stillness recalled a night long ago when he proudly accompanied the little Salvation Army carolling party—there were a concertina, a violin, and half a dozen voices. His job had been to hold the light. How clearly their voices had sounded as they sang:—

"While shepherds watched their flocks by night."

With a start Jim realised that this, too, was Christmas Eve! There, up in the valley, were the shepherds. The evening star shone over Bethlehem, and the very silence—was it not waiting for the angels' song?

In childhood that story seemed to belong to another far-off world. Tonight it took shape and an arresting sense of reality startled him, till he exclaimed: "It must have happened right here, and on a night like this!"

Jim began to wonder why he had not taken the Gospel story more seriously; why, before the age of twelve, he had left Sunday school, never again to enter a place of prayer. Yet, God had sent His Son to earth nearly two thousand years ago—and this was the

very valley that rang with the song of the angels:—

"All glory be to God on high,
And to the earth be peace."

But why sing of peace? Today the world was in the throes of war and civilisation cowered under falling bombs.

And again came a startling realisation: if the people had treated the Gospel message as he had done, what else could happen? The apparent failure of God's plan must be his fault and the fault of such as he.

Jim heard the truck approaching at last. He gazed in awe up the valley and once more marked Bethlehem's dim outline. Heaven had touched earth that night long ago: God had come down among men. Yet, he had treated it as a matter of no concern.

As the truck proceeded on its way, the moon rose. Jim sat quiet amongst the half-intoxicated men. The crude jests and empty songs, in which he usually joined, grated upon him tonight; he felt troubled, mean, guilty. He knew he had lost something and his heart and life were strangely empty.

On the outskirts of Jerusalem the truck halted to allow half a dozen men to alight. The truck driver pointed across the moonlight valley: "Yonder is the Mount of Olives, and over there the historic Garden of Gethsemane!" he said.

"Gethsemane!" Jim exclaimed, under his breath. An impulse he failed to explain possessed him, and he too climbed out: the truck rumbled on again.

It was still early when, half an hour later, he stood in the shade of an olive grove, his head bowed. It must have been here, just a day before the crucifixion, that Jesus kneeled and prayed for a world that did not want Him. Perhaps it was on a night like this?

Did a voice speak, or was it the stirring of memory? "God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Jim sank to his knees. "O God," he prayed, "to think I've done nothing about it: Your gift of eternal life. I've not taken it. If it is not too late, I will take it now."

Found God

There was a pause, then something happened, something penitent Jim could neither describe nor deny. It seemed an upsurging of love from his heart to meet the love-gift from above. He was possessed of a peace which was also a Presence. He had found God. As he kneeled there in thankful wonder he knew that life could never be the same again: from now onward he was the servant of Christ, his Lord.

As he turned toward the city he was overtaken by a fellow serviceman, a stranger. "You have been to the Garden, too?" he queried. Wondering Jim answered in the affirmative.

"I have been in a tough corner myself," the stranger continued, "so I came here to get a new vision of Christ, a cure for cowardice," he explained.

"I met Him for the first time in that Garden tonight," Jim confessed.

"Good! Shake! God bless you!"

As Jim took the extended hand he felt the kinship of the children of God, and there dawned an understanding too sacred for conversation as they returned under the stars. They walked most of the way in silence—for "Jesus Himself drew near and went with them," as truly as in the days of old.

Again gripping hands in parting, Jim said: "I feel this is not the finish; we shall meet again!"

Months pass—months of tragedy and terror, of sweat, blood and tears. Then a day came when the stranger, looking over the official lists, saw Jim's name among the fallen. One evening he sought out his last resting place on a windswept knoll among the hills overlooking the blue Mediterranean.

"Jim," he said, addressing one of the mounds of that tragic enclosure "you were right, this is not the finish; whether, like you, I tread the Valley of Shadows, or answer the call of our returning Lord, we shall meet again."

—Condensed from "The Challenge"

(New Zealand)

AWAKE, GLAD HEART

Awake, glad heart! Get up and sing
It is the birthday of thy King!

Awake! Awake!

A concert make . . .
And let, once more, by mystic birth
The Lord of life be born in earth.

—Henry Vaughan, of Wales, 1650

BUILDER OF MEN

The Carpenter of Galilee

Comes down the street again;
In every land, in every age,
He still is building men.

On Christmas Eve we hear Him knock

He goes from door to door:

"Are any workmen out of work?"

The Carpenter needs more!"

—H.W.S.

From a Very Small Child

By Edith Berven Eckblad

want to give something to Jesus, you see
because it's His Birthday—and Jesus
loves me!

Now, let me think—

I'll give Him a cloud so soft and so white
maybe a star to twinkle at night.

I'll give Him a leaf, bright yellow or red
—I think that I'll send Him some
sunshine instead!

These pretty pink flowers I'm sure He
would like

or maybe my kitty

my teddy

or bike!

My pine cone I'll give Him, all covered
with snow

Jesus will plant it I think it might
grow.

Should I give Him this stone so smooth
and so round?

Or this fluffy white feather—(it's one
that I found)

These shiny wet shells, the sand and the
sea

I'll send up to heaven, for Jesus, from me!

Should I send this butterfly high in the
sky

For my Friend to see as it flip-flutters
by?

I'll whisper a prayer—for blessings I'll
thank

and give Him the coins from my little-
pig bank.

I'll send Him a smile; I'll sing Him a song

I'll make Jesus happy all the day long.

Just Mommy says—

The best is for Jesus in heaven
above—"

Yes, I'll give Him my heart—I'll give
Him my love!

—Lutheran Herald.



THE WEEK AT DANA

your midcontinent college



On Friday, December 5, Dana College paid tribute to a man who has done much over the years for his college, his church and his community.

Dana President Dr. C. C. Madsen (left, above) presented a **Certificate of Appreciation to Reverend A. V. Neve**, Blair, at the Friday Chapel Service. The certificate was given as a Citation for Outstanding Service to the college, on Reverend Neve's 55th Anniversary of his matriculation as a student at Dana College and Trinity Seminary.

Through the years, Pastor Neve has brought innumerable people to Dana's campus and has been influential in Dana's growth.

After receiving the award, Reverend Neve said: I really don't deserve it. All I did was practice a little good will toward Dana. It cost me nothing and it is something we all should do.

Reverend Neve's seven children have spent some 30 years on Dana's campus as students. One of his sons, Paul Neve, is head of the Dana Music Department and is Director of the Dana Choir.

Reverend Neve is the Superintendent of the Good Shepherd home in Blair.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

Stars in the Trees

By Lyle Paulsen

As the story goes, the custom of lighted Christmas trees can be traced back to Martin Luther. It seems that one Christmas Eve as he was walking home to be with his family, the myriads of stars shining through the trees of the forest made a deep impression on him. His imaginative soul responded to the mystery of the night for it was out of such that angels once appeared. The Christmas story lived again in his heart. He was moved to praise and wonder.

On reaching home, he began to tell his family of the beauty and sacredness of the forest and the stars. Trying to convey the glory of the night, his words were dim and dull. He wanted to bring the Christmas story to life, to help his children to feel something of what the shepherds felt, and to see the stars over the Bethlehem stable. With deep sincerity, he sought to make the pure lights above the evergreen forest the personal possession of his family. But he could not.

So, leaving his children, he went out and cut a small fir, brought it into the living room, and placing lighted candles on its branches, he told the story again.

To the people of all time, God has often seemed to be like stars, beautiful, far off but dimly known. Then, one night, long ago, a new star shone in the sky, the Bethlehem star. And in the little village, a baby was born. It was God coming close to His children, choosing to live with them, bringing His light to shine in the home and heart.



So, Martin Luther told his children that God had worked a miracle and had made His stars to shine from the branches of this tree right in their home. The flickering candles became, as by the touch of God, the twinkling lights of the forest. And as their light shines in their faces and hearts, so the Christ Child was born to make their lives bright with love and eternal glory.

—Christmas Chimes, 1955

Christ Is Born!

By John W. Nielsen

Christ is born;
The Heavens are ringing;
Christ is born;
The angels are singing;
Christ is born
To all mortals bringing
Hope of salvation
And peace from our God.

Give thy ear
To the Heavenly ringing;
Give thy voice
To the angels' singing;
Give thyself
To the Saviour bringing
Life eternal
For Jesus is born!

WISCONSIN DISTRICT HOLDS CONVENTION AT PEWAUKEE

By Sally Jane Meyer

The 43rd annual convention of the Wisconsin District Lutheran League was held at Galilee Lutheran Church in Pewaukee, Wisconsin on November 6, 7, and 8. The theme of this year's convention was "Forward With Christ."

Pastor Carl Wildrick, Our Savior's Church, Hartland, spoke at the opening service on "Forward With New Dimensions." The opening service was followed by a dinner. Refreshments were served by the Hartland ladies.

Pastor LeRoy Andersen conducted a communion service on Friday morning. Pastor Daniel Hansen, Oshkosh, spoke at this service on "Forward In The Assurance of Grace." After this service Pastor Robert Berthel held a Bible study. Before the first business session Phil Pagel from Dana College told us about the "new dimensions" at Dana and why those who want to go to school should consider Dana.

At the first business session the various committees were elected and appointed.

On Friday afternoon the movie "The Robe," was shown at the local movie theater especially for the convention. This was a wonderful opportunity to see a Christ-centered film.

Pastor Donald Olsen was M.C. at the banquet on Saturday night. The speaker was Pastor Myron Haleen, Washington Island. His topic was "Forward Through Conflict."

Pastor Immanuel Petersen spoke at the Saturday morning service on "Forward In Service."

At the main business session Pastor Carl Wildrick was elected president; Pastor Dan Hansen, vice-president; and Lillian Petersen, Waupaca, treasurer.

Everyone left the convention going "Forward with Christ, in service, in the assurance of grace, through conflict, with new dimensions!"

YOUTH OFFICE BULLETIN BOARD

TO ALL YOUTH OF OUR CHURCH, THEIR PARENTS, AND COUNSELORS, WE SEND OUR BEST WISHES FOR A BLESSED AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS. MAY PEACE AND JOY FILL YOU AS YOU WORSHIP, PRAISE, AND PROCLAIM CHRIST.

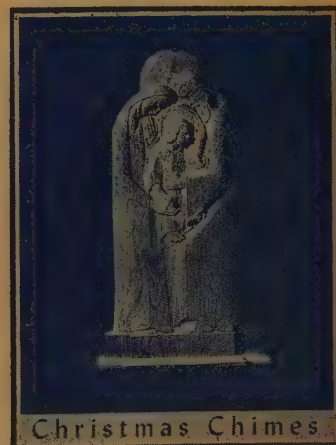
DON'T MISS READING THE INSPIRING "CHRISTMAS CHIMES" FOR 1958. GET IT FROM YOUR LOCAL LUTHER LEAGUE. IT MAKES A MEANINGFUL GIFT. HELP SPREAD THE MESSAGE OF PEACE THROUGH JESUS CHRIST BY SELLING, BUYING, OR GIVING "CHRISTMAS CHIMES"!

Let

CHIMES

Brighten your

CHRISTMAS



BY THE FIRESIDE



CHRISTMAS HOPE

Upon the bare Judean hills
A light from Glory fell;
The air was vibrant with the song
That angels came to tell.

That night so many years ago,
Which brought the Saviour's birth,
Gave promise of a brighter hope:
Good will—and peace on earth.

But still our blinded warring world
Goes on its wounded way—
Oh, Lord, let fall an angel song
Again this Christmas Day.

Our empty hearts, like barren hills,
Need healing for earth's pain—
How glad would be the tidings, Lord,
That Christ returns again!

—Helen Frazee-Bower

THE CHRIST CHILD

By Florence T. Hillard

Such little head to wear
The Master's crown;
Such little hands to pull
All heaven down.
Such little feet to lead
To heights sublime;
Such soft heartbeats from which
To reckon time.

Gentle Saviour, blessed Babe,
Smiling in His sleep,
As He shapes a tender dream
For the world to keep.

—Free Methodist

SILENT NIGHT

My door is wide,
My wreath is bright;
My candles burn
Bravely tonight.

The snow is deep,
The hill is white;
My hearth is warm
With red firelight.

This is the night
Of lovely speech
And golden songs
The heart may reach.

This night a star
Will light the earth
To spread afar
The Christ Child's birth.

—William Arnette Wofford

CHRISTMAS EVE REVERIE

By Truman Hollis Woodward

It is not snow that makes a Christmas
Day
(The fields in ancient Bethlehem
were bare);
It is not festive garments red and
gay,
(Rude swaddling clothes enwrap
the Christ Child there).

The stockings hang before a fire nigh
dead
(No fireside his, but borrowed man-
ger stall);
The children, shepherded, are safe in
bed
(A cruel king, to slay one child,
slew all).

A rattle for the baby tops the tree
(Gold, frankincense, and myrrh!
How odd!)
We give in terms of happy infancy.
(They gave as though the gift were
meant for God!)

—Sunday School Times

LOVE'S PILGRIMAGE

If Love should come to earth again,
Would He find faith or only pain?
Some stable straw to serve for bed,
A crown of thorns to grace His head?
And must Love pass eternally
From Bethlehem to Calvary?

I would that Love would come to me
And heal my mind and set me free.
A motley fool might yet be wise
To penetrate Love's dear disguise,
If Love pass on eternally
From Bethlehem to Calvary.

Sure Love will come again, again,
And bring men peace and gather pain;
For 'neath the light of moons and morns
Love passes ever crowned with thorns
Eternally, eternally,
From Bethlehem to Calvary.

—Father Andrew

THE WAY

Which way, which way to Bethlehem?
The ancient Magi said,
For we have seen a wondrous star
And by its light were led.

"Which way, which way to Bethle-
hem?"

Ask anxious men today,
"We hear no singing heavenly host,
No star leads us the way.

"We hear the cities' din and jar,
We see the jostling throngs,
We see no wondrous guiding star,
Hear no celestial songs.

"The nations' wars and strifes resound,
Oppressed men beg release,
But oh, no glory shines around
A cradled, earth-born peace."

Spirit of love, this Holy Day,
Grant to world-weary men
That they may seek and find the way
To Bethlehem again!

—Maude Ludington Cain

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED WONDERFUL

"His name shall be called Wonderful,"
This Babe for whom
Even in village inn, there was no room.
The lowing of cattle was His lullaby
Though carolling angels were throng-
ing the sky.

"His name shall be called Wonderful,"
This little lad,
Living so simply, and so plainly clad.
"His name shall be called Wonderful,"
This Carpenter,
Known from his childhood by each
villager.

"His name shall be called Wonderful."
Spat upon, shamed,
Tortured and crucified, how is He
named
Wonderful, Counsellor, Almighty God,
He who one dark day Golgotha's road
trod?

His name SHALL be Wonderful—
Jesus, God's Son,
His Word has promised and it shall
be done.
Not meek and lowly, despised among
men;
This same Lord Jesus is coming again

With clouds and great glory, to reign
here below,
And all men shall praise Him and all
knees shall bow.
From ocean to ocean His name shall
be heard,
Wonderful name of our wonderful
Lord.

—Martha Snell Nicholson

The Forward Phase

By Richard Videbeck

There are only 746 days left until merger. Just a little over two years to get prepared. Only 106 weeks in which to put our synodical house in order. On January 1, 1961, three evangelical programs will become one. Through unity we will strive to be bolder in our visions and more effective in our efforts. In faith, we hold great expectations for our united future.

In these remaining 746 days, we have a dual responsibility as a church. We must conscientiously fulfill our present obligations as reflected in our regular synodical budget. Missions and education, education and administration—all these regular functions must continue to receive our support.

We also must do all that we can to insure the success of the merged church's program. This is especially true in the case of those institutions of our synod which will also serve the new church. Our educational institutions and programs must be in a position to grow with the merger. In these times of increasing educational standards, it is essential that our program in higher education does and continues to render the type and quality of education which both our church and society demand.

At present, our synod has an active interest in six educational programs. Some of these we support cooperatively with other church bodies, and for others our synod assumes full responsibility. Each one offers a distinctive and valuable service.

Through the National Lutheran Council we contribute to the operation of **Lutheran Student Centers** on the campuses of many state and non-sectarian universities across the nation. At these Centers our Lutheran college youth are offered a campus church home. Here, through fellowship and pastoral counsel their life's values are kept in proper perspective.

The **Canadian Lutheran Seminary** and the **California Lutheran College** are recent additions to our program in higher education. Several young men from our Canadian congregations are already enrolled in the seminary at Saskatoon. We have joined forces with the ELC, ULCA, and ALC in this work. Similarly, we are cooperating with these synods in the development of the **California College**. While opening is still a year or two away, great strides have been made in planning for both the physical plant and curriculum. Both of these schools

are strategically located to serve their respective regions.

For many decades the UELC has conducted a mission at Oaks, Oklahoma. It has ministered to the spiritual, physical and educational needs of Cherokee Indians. The success of the **Mission School** is reflected in the increased demands placed upon it by the people it serves.

Since 1956 **Trinity Seminary**, the mother of our educational institutions, has been located on the campus of Wartburg Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa. From the outset, the Trinity and Wartburg faculties have been working together in their teaching programs. While our church carries its proportionate share of the cost of the annual operation, we are deficient in other aspects of the joint venture. This is especially true in library matters.

The year 1959 is Diamond Jubilee on the **Dana College** Campus. In her seventy-five year history, Dana has evolved from a preparatory school into an accredited, four-year, collegiate program. Its campus has grown from a few wooden structures to a modern dream that is fast becoming a reality.

Dana's current rate of growth in enrollment is beginning to tax her faculties and facilities—and the increase has only begun. Getting and retaining competent instructors is a problem all colleges are facing. If Dana is to maintain her place in the world of higher education, serious attention must be given to offering attractive salaries to the College's faculty.

A college's library ranks only second to her faculty in being the heart of a college. There is, and probably always will be, room for substantial improvement in coverage of Dana's library. Laboratories and other instructional facilities should not be overlooked in listing the needs of Dana. As our church and society continues to require more and more of college graduates, we can only raise our aspirations for Dana. We must complement her many existing strengths and points of superiority.

Our synod has gone beyond the mere fact of recognizing the developmental needs of these six educational programs. At the 1958 Convention, a Forward Phase budget was adopted. A sum of \$92,500 is sought for the current budget year. This amount will be allocated to the work of Lutheran Student Centers, The Canadian

Seminary, the California College, the Cherokee Mission School, Trinity Seminary, and Dana College according to their adjudged needs.

Now the realization of the Forward Phase goal is in the hands of our congregations and interested individuals. As far as you are concerned, there are two courses of action which you can take.

First, make sure that your own congregation is faithful in fulfilling its apportioned obligation to Forward Phase. Let others in your local church know how you feel about it. Encourage the responsible officers to include Forward Phase in your congregation's benevolence program.

Secondly, you can be one of those "interested parties"—one who will do something about it personally. There are always times when we feel the need for a special expression of thanksgiving to the Lord for all his benefits. As we individually grow in grace in love, we also become more fully aware of our dependence upon the Lord for all that we possess: our time, our talents, and our treasure. While there are many worthy programs within our church, at this point in our synodical history, Forward Phase is an especially appropriate concern of our personal stewardship. And what better time of the church year for a special gift, than now in the Yuletide Season.

This is also the time of the year when individuals with variable incomes, such as businessmen, professional people, and farmers, can most accurately estimate their 1958 income. Now is the time, before January 1st, when you can still make adjustments in your Stewardship for 1958, and still account for it on your 1958 income tax return.

Regardless of how you personally choose to support Forward Phase, your action will give strength to our programs in higher education and will increase their effectiveness in the merged church.

HOUSEKEEPER — for suburban St. Louis, Missouri, home. Retired Danish gentleman seeks refined middle-aged lady with Danish background. Must be good cook and have excellent references.

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	Fiscal Yr. 1958		Calendar Yr. 1959
	Total	Synodical	Luth. Work
Budget		\$488949.00	\$495000.00
Forward Phase		92500.00	
Previously acknowledged	\$199318.12	\$166428.24	\$32889.88
Castro Valley, Calif., Faith Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$500, LWA \$212.50	712.50	500.00	212.50
Faith Luth. Church, Naomi Circle, to help train a child in school in the Sudan Mission, Special Project	20.00	20.00	
Pasadena, Calif., Bethany Luth. S. S. for Sudan Mission	30.00	30.00	
San Francisco, Calif., Ansgar Luth. Church for Pension Fund	79.50	79.50	
Whittier, Calif., St. Andrew Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	229.84	229.84	
Denver, Colo., Christ the King Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	258.30	258.30	
Chicago, Ill., Golgotha Luth. Church. Given by Sophie and Lawrence Iversen for Dana College \$50, Japan Mission \$25, Santal Mission \$15, Pension Fund \$10	100.00	100.00	
McNabb, Ill., McNabb Luth. Church for Children's Home, Elk Horn	16.25	16.25	
Hamlin, Ia., Hamlin Danish Ladies Aid for Foreign Missions	45.00	45.00	
Rolfe, Ia., St. Paul's Luth. S. S. for South America Mission	20.00	20.00	
Anonymous for Home Missions	5.00	5.00	
Spencer, Ia., Bethany Luth. Church, Evening Circles, for Children's Homes	12.00	12.00	
Greenville, Mich., Pastor and Mrs. Clarence E. Jensen, Lois, Lydia and Paul in memory of Anna Lange for Parkijuli Mission in Santal	10.00	10.00	
In memory of Dr. Silas Andersen for Santal Mission	10.00	10.00	
In memory of Dr. Ethan Mengers for Dana College \$10 and Trinity Seminary \$10	20.00	20.00	
In memory of M. J. Madsen for Home Mission	10.00	10.00	
Dana College Development Program \$75.00*			
Sidney, Mich., Given in memory of Andrew Lamb, Sr., by his children for Children's Homes	5.00	5.00	
Given by Pearl LaClear in memory of Chris Petersen for Children's Homes	5.00	5.00	
Immanuel Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	25.40	25.40	
Blooming Prairie, Minn., Trinity Luth. Church for LWA	95.00		95.00
Hutchinson, Minn., Faith Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	1000.00	1000.00	
Evan, Minn., St. Matthew's Luth. Church for LWA \$222, Synodical Quota \$200	422.00	200.00	222.00
McCabe, Mont., Ebenezer Luth. Church for Pension Fund	70.00	70.00	
Sidney, Mont., Pella Luth. Ladies Aid for Foreign Missions \$2.98, for Marlene Paulsen's salary, Japan Mission \$100	102.98	102.98	
Fremont, Nebr., Bluffs Trinity Luth. Church for LWA	395.58		395.58
Flaxton, N. D., United Luth. Ladies Aid for Japan Mission	21.00	21.00	
Norma, N. D., Zion Ladies Aid in memory of Carl Hansen, Eugene, Ore., for Pension Fund	5.00	5.00	
Zion Ladies Aid for LWA	10.35		10.35
Zion Luth. Church for Pension Fund	11.00	11.00	
Norma, N. Dak., Zion Luth. Ladies Aid for Children's Homes \$20	20.00	20.00	
For Old People's Homes at Edmore, Mich., Blair, Nebr., Minden, Nebr., Waupaca, Wis., \$10.00 each*			
Beresford, S. Dak., Nazareth Luth. Church, South Circle, for Sudan Mission \$15, Santal Mission \$15, Japan Mission \$15, South America Mission \$5, and China Mission \$5*	50.00	50.00	
Viborg, S. Dak., Bethany Willing Workers for Home Mission, Pension Fund, School Fund and LWA \$25 each	100.00	75.00	25.00
Green Bay, Wis., Bethel Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	255.00	255.00	
Neenah, Wis., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	1000.00	1000.00	
Racine, Wis., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	2000.00	2000.00	
Our Savior's Luth. S. S. for Foreign Missions	100.00	100.00	
Indianapolis, Ind., First Trinity Ev. Luth. S. S. for Indian Mission	15.44	15.44	
Audubon, Ia., Our Savior's Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$1,800, LWA \$290, South America Mission \$25, Sudan Mission \$10, Santal Mission \$25, Japan Mission \$25, Children's Homes \$10, Indian Mission \$15	2200.00	1910.00	290.00
Cedar Falls, Ia., Nazareth Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$1,088.50, Sudan Mission (Kohler's Salary) \$350	1438.50	1438.50	
Underwood, Ia., Underwood Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	37.00	37.00	
Harlan, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Church, Women of the Church, for LWA	75.00		75.00
Immanuel Luth. S.S. for LWA	14.00	14.00	
Morgan, Minn., Bethany Luth. Church for LWA \$87, General Fund \$76.62, Pension Fd. \$36.38	200.00	113.00	87.00
Morgan, Minn., Bethany Luth. S. S. for LWA \$13.20, Santal Mission \$4.20	17.40	4.20	13.20
Sleepy Eye, Minn., Trinity Luth. Church for Foreign Missions	59.58	59.58	
Westby, Mont., Daneville Ladies Aid for School Fund, Pension Fund, Children's Homes \$20 ea.	60.00	60.00	
Blair, Nebr., Dr. and Mrs. C. B. Larsen for Pension Fund	25.00	25.00	
Dannebrog, Nebr., Dannebrog Luth. Church for LWA \$50.85, Synodical Quota \$449.15	500.00	449.15	50.85
Ord, Nebr., Bethany Luth. Church for Pension Fund	20.00	20.00	
Abdal, Nebr., Bethel Luth. Church in memory of Mrs. Rosa Ebsen, Bostwick, Nebr., for Foreign Mission	5.00	5.00	
Flaxton, N. D., United Luth. Church for Pension Fund	24.30	24.30	
Westby, Mont., Given in memory of Mrs. Jacob Rasmussen, for Home Missions \$8, South Am. Mission \$9, Santal Mission \$9, Sudan Mission \$10 by Mr. and Mrs. Christ Madsen and Lydia, Mr. and Mrs. Rufus Wittmayer, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Helland, Mr. and Mrs. George Kittleson, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Kittleson, Mr. and Mrs. Christ Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Hans Madsen, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Madsen, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Dixon, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Christensen, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Jensen and Anna, Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Larsen, Mr. and Mrs. George Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Milton Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Mones, Mr. and Mrs. Milo Nordhagen, Mr. and Mrs. Eldon Hansen, Mr. and Mrs. Thorvald Nelsen	36.00	36.00	
Luverne, N. D., Luverne Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	1000.00	1000.00	
Brooklyn, Wis., Brooklyn Luth. Church for LWA \$49.50, Synodical Quota \$250	300.00	250.50	49.50
Cushing, Wis., Cushing Luth. S. S. for Foreign Missions	32.23	32.23	
Oregon, Wis., St. John's Luth. S. S. for Missionary Mathiasen in Brazil, South American Miss.	78.22	78.22	
Toronto, Ont., Canada, St. Ansgar Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$282.72	282.72	282.72	
Caruthers, Calif., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	106.95	106.95	
Mather Air Force Base, Calif., Thanksgiving Day offering received at the General Protestant service for Luth. World Relief	90.80		90.80
Weekly offerings of personnel attending Luth. Services during November at Mather Air Force Base for LWA	71.68		71.68
Oakland, Calif., Our Savior's Luth. Church, given by R. H. Lincoln for 1959 LWA \$345	200.00	200.00	
Selma, Calif., Pella Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	23.00	23.00	
Selma, Calif., Pella Luth. Ladies Aid for Santal Mission \$10, South America Mission \$13	134.34	134.34	
Aurora, Colo., Altura Luth. Church for Synodical Quota			
Brush, Colo., All Saints Church, Eben-Ezer, for Pension Fund \$20.75, Forward Phase in full \$56.35	77.10	77.10	
Elk Horn, Ia., Elk Horn Luth. Church for LWA in full	971.00		971.00
Given by Mr. and Mrs. Alex Petersen for Foreign Missions	50.00	50.00	
Exira, Ia., Ophelia Ladies Aid for Foreign Missions	500.00	500.00	
Graettinger, Ia., South Walnut Luth. Church for LWA in full	56.15		56.15
Given by South Walnut Luth. Church Council, Clarion Paulsen, Herman Jensen, Kenneth Henningsen, Clarence J. Johnson, Elliot Larsen and Merle Suss in memory of Alfred R. Jorgensen, Chicago, for Foreign Missions	6.00	6.00	

Harlan, Ia., Immanuel Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$1,000, Santal Mission \$22.37	1022.37	1022.37	
Harlan, Ia., St. Paul's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$1,500, LWA in full \$300, Forward Phase in full \$480			
Harlan, Ia., Bethlehem Luth. Church, Esther Circle, for South America Mission	2280.00	1980.00	300.00
Harmon Lake, Ia., St. Mark's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$100, LWA in full \$100	50.00	50.00	
Harmon Lake, Ia., Synodical Treasurer, Women's Missionary Society	200.00	100.00	100.00
West Canada District			
Premium on Canadian check for \$150 previously sent in for General Foreign Missions	4.50	4.50	
Wisconsin District			
Gethsemane Luth., Racine, for Japan Mission (M. Paulsen) \$30, Santal Mission \$40	70.00	70.00	
St. Peter's Ladies Aid, Camp Douglas, in memory of Mr. Roy Christensen for Japan Mission (M. Paulsen)	5.00	5.00	
North Dakota-Montana District			
Ebenezer Luth. Ladies Aid, McCabe, for Foreign Missions	84.00	84.00	
Ebenezer Luth. Ladies Aid, McCabe, in mem. of Mr. and Mrs. Jorgen Smith for For. Miss.	6.00	6.00	
Iowa District			
St. Paul's Missionary Soc., Atlantic, for Japan Mission, South Am. Miss., Santal Miss., Sudan Miss., South America Miss. (Brazil) each \$25	125.00	125.00	
Dorcas Aid Society, Elk Horn, for Home Missions, School Fund, Elim Children's Home, Oaks Mission, Pension Fund, South Am. Mission, Japan Miss., Santal Miss., Sudan Miss., and LWA each \$15	150.00	135.00	15.00
Nazareth Church Women, Cedar Falls, for Dana College \$100, Home Miss. \$225, Oaks Mission \$25, Jewish Miss. \$10*, Japan Miss. \$50, Sudan Miss. \$50, South Am. Miss. \$50, Santal Miss. \$50, So. America Miss (Brazil) \$25, Pension Fund \$115, Elim Children's Home \$55, Japan Mission (M. Paulsen) \$25, Sudan Miss. (Wahlgren) \$25, China Mission, in honor of Anna Madsen, \$10*, Eben-Ezer Home \$25*	795.00	795.00	
Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid, Rutland, in memory of Mrs. Wilbur Howen for Foreign Miss.	3.00	3.00	
Women of the Church, Immanuel, Harlan, in mem. of Mrs. Mary Larsen for Foreign Miss.	5.00	5.00	
Women of the Church, Immanuel, Harlan, in mem. of Mrs. John Petersen for Foreign Miss.	5.00	5.00	
Salem Luth. Ladies Aid, Elk Horn, for Santal Miss., Sudan Miss., Japan Miss., S. America Mission \$15 each	60.00	60.00	
Women of the Church, S. Walnut, Graettinger, in memory of Carl Hansen for South Am. Mission (Brazil)	2.50	2.50	
Maplehurst, Nebr., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$442.79, Forward Phase in full \$90.65, LWA in full \$55.50	588.94	533.44	55.50
Maplehurst, Nebr., Bethesda Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	100.00	100.00	
Maplehurst, Nebr., Trinity Luth. Church for General Fund \$1,000.00, LWA in full \$363.	1363.00	1000.00	363.00
Given in memory of Mrs. Hans Miller for Japan Mission	1.00	1.00	
Given in memory of Mrs. Hans Miller for Foreign Missions	16.00	16.00	
Given by Mrs. Cecelia Loken for Home Mission	10.00	10.00	
Given by Santal Mission Circle for Santal Mission	50.00	50.00	
Given by American Sudan Circle for Seminary Student Fund* \$100			
Given by Sudan Circle for Sudan Mission	38.00	38.00	
Northfield, Minn., St. Peter's Ladies Aid for LWA	3.00		3.00
McCabe, Mont., Ebenezer Luth. S. S. for Foreign Mission	30.81	30.81	
McCabe, Mont., Ebenezer Luth. Church, Martha Circle, for Foreign Miss. \$30, Home Miss. \$20	50.00	50.00	
McCabe, Mont., Pella Luth. Church, given by Mrs. Andrew Lund for Jewish Mission \$2*			
Westby, Mont., Emmaus Luth. Church, given by Marie Andersen for LWA	5.00		5.00
Westby, Mont., Emmaus Luth. S. S. for Sudan Mission \$10, to support a boy for a year at the Sudan Mission School \$40	50.00	50.00	
Westby, N. Dak., Daneville Luth. Church, Westby, given by Mr. and Mrs. Carl M. Jensen for LWA	50.00		50.00
Wesley, Okla., Ebenezer Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	250.00	250.00	
Wesley, Okla., Nazareth Luth. Church, given by Victor Jensen for Synodical Quota	345.00	345.00	
Wesley, Okla., First Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	95.25	95.25	
Wesley, Okla., Our Savior's Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$200, LWA in full \$324.50	524.50	200.00	324.50
Wesley, Okla., Milltown Luth. S. S. for LWA	35.00		35.00
Wesley, Okla., First Luth. Church for Synodical Quota \$100, LWA in full \$95.34	195.34	100.00	95.34
Wesley, Okla., First Luth. S. S. for Oaks Mission	28.90	28.90	
Wesley, Okla., Gethsemane Ev. Luth. Church for Synodical Quota	265.00	265.00	
Wesley, Okla., Gethsemane Luth. S. S. for Japan Miss., S. Am. Miss., Santal Miss., Sudan Miss. \$100 ea.	400.00	400.00	
Wesley, Okla., Gethsemane S. S., Intermediate Dept. for Japan Mission	20.00	20.00	
Wesley, Okla., Marian Jensen for Japan Mission \$16.66, Sudan Miss. \$16.67, S. Am. Miss. \$16.67	50.00	50.00	
West Canada District Treasurer, Standard, Alta., Canada			
J. Viggo Anderson, Tilley, for Sudan, Santal, South Am., and Japan Missions each \$25	100.00	100.00	
Our Savior's Comm. Luth. S. S., Hussar, for Sudan Mission	15.51	15.51	
TOTALS			
	\$224794.85	**\$187879.02	\$36915.83

* Not included in Synodical Budget. ** Of this total \$2,074.04 is for Forward Phase.

Received with Thanks.

Blair, Nebraska, December 13, 1958.

P. V. Hansen, Treasurer

Note: A contribution from Trinity Foreign Mission Society, Kenmare, N. Dak., of \$40 was credited to the Sudan Mission should have been specifically for supporting a child in the Sudan Mission School in Africa.

A contribution of \$75 credited to All Saints Church, Brush, Colo., was given by Mrs. Esther Westergaard, a member of All Saints Church. We regret the oversight.



Season's Greetings

"And the angel said to them, 'Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.'"

—Luke 2:10-11

We wish to extend to you our sincere wishes for a Joyous Christmas and a Blessed New Year. May we also express our sincere thanks for your patronage the past year.

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